

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A polymeric coextruded multilayer web, the web comprising:

at least two layers of fibers [that are discontinuous in the cross-web direction], each fiber layer comprising a plurality of distinct fibers [phases] that are substantially continuous in the down-web direction; and

at least [one layer] three layers that [is] are substantially continuous in both the cross-web and down-web directions, at least one of the continuous layers comprising a pressure sensitive adhesive;

wherein said layers of fibers are embedded between continuous layers and are separated from each other by continuous layer material of said multilayer web [has an x-axis that is in the cross-web direction of the web, a y-axis that is in the down-web direction of the web and a z-axis that is in the thickness direction of the web, and wherein the substantially continuous layer(s) lacks weld lines in the y-z plane of the web].

2. (Currently amended) The web of claim 1 wherein the materials comprising said substantially continuous layers and said fiber layers are polymers having polymer melt viscosities within a factor of two of one another [independently comprise a material selected from the group consisting of pressure-sensitive adhesives, thermoplastic materials, elastomeric materials, melt processable foams, high viscosity liquids, and mixtures thereof].

3. (Currently amended) The web of claim 1 wherein said [discontinuous] fiber layers independently comprise a material selected from the group consisting of [pressure-sensitive adhesives,] thermoplastic materials, elastomeric materials, [melt processable foams,] high viscosity liquids, and mixtures thereof.

4. (Currently amended) The web of claim 1 wherein said continuous layers comprise an acrylic pressure-sensitive adhesive and wherein said [discontinuous] layers of fibers independently comprise a material selected from the group consisting of a non-pressure-sensitive adhesive, a thermoplastic polyolefin, and combinations thereof.

5. (Currently amended) The web of claim 4 wherein said thermoplastic polyolefin is selected from the group consisting of [an] ethylene vinyl acetate copolymers [copolymer], [an] ethylene/poly- α -olefin copolymers [copolymer], amino-compatible polyolefins and blends [polyolefin or a blend] of ethylene/poly- α -olefin and amino-compatible polyolefin polymers.
6. (Currently amended) [The] A polymeric web [of claim 1 wherein said] comprising a plurality of substantially continuous layers [comprise a pressure-sensitive adhesive] comprising polymer that is foamed and [wherein said discontinuous] at least two layers of fibers, said fiber layers being embedded between continuous layers and separated from each other by continuous layer material, said fibers comprising [comprise] a material selected from the group consisting of [pressure-sensitive adhesives,] thermoplastics [and] including homopolymers and copolymers thereof, and combinations thereof.
7. (Currently amended) The web of claim [1] 4 wherein said [substantially continuous layers and said discontinuous] layers of fibers comprise [thermoplastic] homopolymers or copolymers [and mixtures and blends thereof] selected from the group consisting of ethylene vinyl-acetate copolymers, isotactic polypropylene, copolymers of norbornene and ethylene and ethylene/poly- α -olefin copolymers.
8. (Currently amended) The web of claim 1 wherein said substantially continuous layers comprise [at least one polyolefin] a material selected from blends of polyolefins and elastomeric block copolymers, natural or synthetic rubbers and blends of isotactic polypropylene and elastomeric polypropylene and wherein said [discontinuous] layers of fibers comprise a material selected from the group consisting of cyclic polyolefins [or] and blends of cyclic polyolefin with non-cyclic polyolefin, polyamides, styrenic polymers and homopolymers and copolymers thereof].
9. (Currently amended) [The] A polymeric web [of claim 1 wherein said] comprising a plurality of substantially continuous layers [comprise a] comprising porous polymer film and at least two layers of fibers, said fiber layers being embedded between continuous layers and separated from each other by continuous layer material.

10. (Currently amended) The web of claim 9 wherein said substantially continuous layers comprise polypropylene and oil and wherein said [discontinuous] fiber layers have a higher tensile strength than said continuous layers.

11. (Currently amended) The web of claim 9 wherein said [discontinuous] fiber layers comprise polypropylene.

12. (Currently amended) The web of claim 9 wherein said [discontinuous] fiber layers comprise a [die] dye or colorant.

13. (Currently amended) The web of claim 1 wherein said [discontinuous] fiber layers alternate with said [at least one] continuous layers [layer].

14. (Currently amended) The web of claim 1 wherein said web has two substantially continuous layers between each layer of fibers [set of discontinuous layers].

15. (New) A polymeric web comprising:

a) at least two layers of fibers that are substantially continuous in the down-web direction;
and

b) at least three layers that are substantially continuous down-web and cross-web and comprising a material selected from the group consisting of polyolefins blended with a material selected from the group consisting of elastomeric block copolymers, natural and synthetic rubbers, and atactic polypropylene blended with isotactic polypropylene;

said layers of fibers being embedded between continuous layers and being separated from each other by continuous layer material.

16. (New) The polymeric web of claim 15 in which the fiber layers comprise a polymer selected from the group consisting of polyamides, styrenic polymers, cyclic polyolefins and copolymers thereof.

17. (New) The polymeric web of claim 16 in which the fiber layers comprise cyclic copolymer of norbornene and ethylene, and the continuous layers comprise a blend of atactic polypropylene with isotactic polypropylene.

18. (New) The polymeric web of claim 15 which is in the form of a paint masking film.